

- (ix) Government has launched the Debt Restructuring Scheme w.e.f Sept., 2003 with the principal objective to permit banks to lend to the textile sector at 8-9% rate of interest.
- (x) In order to cater to the growing skilled manpower requirements at shop floor level, Government is providing assistance for strengthening existing and opening new Apparel Training and Design Centres (ATDCs).
- (xi) Government has allowed 100% Foreign Direct Investment in the textile sector under automatic route.
- (xii) Government has de-reserved the readymade garments, hosiery and knitwear from SSI sector so that large scale investments may be encouraged in these sectors.
- (xiii) National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) has been set up to provide the leadership role in sensitizing the Industry to the concept of value addition by inducting trained professionals to manage the industry. This has resulted in an increased demand for trained professionals in various sectors servicing the industry.
- (xiv) To take a serious look at Fashion Education in the changing business context of the opening up of World Economies, Government is taking steps for:—
 - Establishing an institution of National Excellence for imparting Fashion Business Education with International Benchmarking.
 - Appointing a nodal agency for standardizing and benchmarking Fashion Business Education in the country.
 - Setting up an Apex Body to train the teachers/trainers imparting Fashion Business Education in the country.

Setting up of Apparel Park in Orissa

1630. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to set up an Apparel Park in Chandaka

Industrial Estate in Orissa;

(b) whether it is proposed to be name it as 'Apparel Institute of Management' which would offer degree courses;

(c) if so, what is the stake of the Centre in this project; and

(d) how far this would give a thrust to international standard apparel manufacturing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

IIHT at Bargarh

1631. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

SHRI B.J. PANDA: MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre proposes to put the Indian Institute of Handloom Technology at Bargarh, on fast-track mode;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government also propose to organize annual handloom mela at New Delhi to popularize its products and their sale at the national level; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Institute of Handloom Technology at Bargarh is being set up on the line of existing 4 IIHTs viz. Salem, Guwahati, Jodhpur and Varanasi as per the request of Government of Orissa. For this purpose, a new scheme namely "Setting up of IIHTs in the Central Sector" has been formulated and is in active consideration of Standing Finance Committee.

(c) and (d) In order to provide opportunity to handloom weavers to market